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DID YOU KNOW?

Washing your car at home can use 80-140 gallons of water! In comparison, a commercial car wash facility uses 40-45 gallons of water per wash.

Many commercial car washes recycle and re-use the wash water that is generated.

Most professional car washes save water by using high pressure pumps to clean the car thoroughly while conserving water.



2014 Consumer Confidence Report

City of West Columbia *Bridging Past, Present and Future*

Local Governments Partner with Commercial Car Wash Operators on Fundraising Program

The Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium (LCSC) which is comprised of the communities of Cayce, South Congaree, Springdale, West Columbia, Irmo, Pine Ridge, Town of Lexington, and Lexington County has partnered with local commercial car wash operators to launch the Lexington County Car Wash Fundraiser Program. Community groups can purchase discounted car wash coupons from participating facilities that they can then re-sell. It's quick, easy and safe for the environment.

Car wash fundraisers are an important means for an organization to raise money, but if the wash water isn't handled properly, it can be harmful to the environment. Car wash fundraisers are usually held in parking lots of local businesses where the water enters the storm drain and empties directly into local creeks, rivers and streams. All of the pollutants that are in the wash water are then deposited in local waterways. Using a commercial facility is the best choice when washing a car.

One car wash by itself will have little impact on the environment, but considering all of the car washes happening in Lexington County for fundraisers at people's homes, it's easy to see that collectively washing vehicles has a huge impact. We urge local groups to contact the participating car washes and get started selling tickets instead of holding a car wash in a parking lot somewhere.

The participating car washes include:

Franks Car Wash:

4578 Sunset Blvd., Lexington
516 Columbia Avenue, Lexington
1113 Lake Murray Blvd., Irmo

Sunset Car Wash & Detail Shop:

1918 Sunset Blvd., West Columbia

Al's Car Wash & Detail Shop:

1119 Charleston Hwy, West Columbia



Dear Valued Customer:

It is with great pleasure that I present you, our valued water customer with this summary of water quality in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. For more than a decade, I have had the honor of serving as the City of West Columbia's Director of Utilities. In 2014 the City of West Columbia continued to provide our customers with safe, reliable drinking water.

Customer satisfaction remains the ongoing goal of the 23 employees of your water company. Should you have any questions concerning the contents of this report, your water quality, or to report service problems please contact us at 791-1880. We will be more than happy to assist you in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Joe Owens, Mayor

Consortium Supports Healthy, Fishable & Swimmable Waterways

Lexington County and seven of its municipalities have formed a regional partnership to provide educational opportunities on stormwater pollutant issues to citizens, various agencies, organizations, and community groups. The seven municipalities include Irmo, Cayce, Lexington, Springdale, Pine Ridge, South Congaree and West Columbia. The regional partnership, called the Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium (LCSC), has recruited local service education partners to become consortium members.

LCSC's strategic goal is to enhance water quality throughout the consortium area through education, involvement, and outreach by fostering partnerships with local governments, citizens, business owners and organizations to support healthy, fishable and swimmable waterways.

LCSC's objectives are:

- Develop and implement a cohesive education strategy that addresses the range of stormwater pollutants using a prioritized approach and capitalizes on local training resources.
- Foster citizen involvement in stormwater management through the LCSC's education and participation programs.
- Encourage behavioral changes towards environmental quality improvement through stormwater education.
- Facilitate collaboration among local governments, citizens, business owners and organizations on ways to improve storm-water quality.
- Help local MS4s meet NPDES Phase II permit requirements for public stormwater education and outreach by making local education resources and service providers readily available.
- Utilize mainstream and developing technologies and tools to maximize citizen exposure to LCSC stormwater goals and objectives.
- To achieve clean and healthy tributaries, rivers, and ground waters within Lexington County.
- Maximize efficiency of stormwater education efforts in Lexington County by using a countywide watershed approach.
- Create a model for collaborative stormwater education that can be presented and applied throughout the state and beyond.

Protect Our Waters: Scoop the Poop!

The City of West Columbia, as part of the Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium (LCSC), works to educate the public on water quantity and quality concerns associated with stormwater runoff. One contributor to polluted stormwater runoff is animal/pet waste.

Did you know that a day's waste from one large dog can contain 7.8 billion fecal bacteria? Pet waste carries both parasitic and bacterial diseases, which make water unsafe for swimming or drinking.

Some of the diseases that dog waste can contain include the following:

- **Hook worms:** Larvae usually migrate in the skin causing an itchy red track to develop.
- **Round worms:** Can cause vision problems and nervous defects.
- **Cryptosporidium:** A protozoan parasite carried by dogs, cats, and many other mammals. Common symptoms include diarrhea, stomach cramps, nausea and dehydration. May be fatal to people with depressed immune systems.
- **Campylobacteriosis:** A bacterial infection carried by dogs and cats that frequently causes diarrhea in humans.
- **Giardia:** Can cause extreme diarrhea.

Pet waste should be removed from areas that children use as play areas because with weaker immune systems they are more prone to getting the above diseases. Pet waste should never be put in gardens. Waste should not be put in compost piles since most compost piles do not get hot enough to kill these organisms.

Bacteria and nutrients found in pet waste can contaminate rivers, lakes and streams, making them unsafe for human use. The City of West Columbia requires that owners pick up and properly dispose of pet waste in a trash receptacle otherwise the waste will go straight into the rivers and lakes.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of West Columbia draws water from two sources, the Saluda River and Lake Murray. The water treatment plant for the Saluda River is located at 406 Sunset Boulevard in West Columbia and has a capacity of 6 million gallons per day. The second water plant, located on Old Cherokee Road, uses Lake Murray for its water source and has the capacity to produce 22.5 million gallons per day. Both facilities provide water for the residents of West Columbia and other areas of Lexington County.

2014 Regulated Detections Chart

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Detected Level	Sample Period
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] [ppm]	10	10	0.27 0.094-0.27	2014
Fluoride [ppm]	4	4.0	0.7 0.61-0.7	2014
Copper [ppm]	1.3	AL=1.3	90%=00.43	2012
Lead [ppb]	0	AL=15ppb	0 Range=ND 0.00	2012
Haloacetic Acids [ppb] [HAA5]	N/A	60	LRAA 44 30.2-60	2014
Lake Murray Plant Chlorine [ppm]	4	4	3.82 0.30-3.82	2014
Riverside Plant Chlorine [ppm]	4	4	1.26 0.51-1.26	2014
Lake Murray TOC [ppm]	TT	TT	Range=36.8-50% Level Found 41.8%	2014
Riverside Plant TOC [ppm]	TT	TT	Range=25.0-58.6% Level Found 42.9% 35% is required	2014

Turbidity

- Lake Murray Plant's highest detected level: 0.21 ntu.
- Sunset Blvd. Plant's highest detected level: 0.29 ntu.
- MCLG: < 0.3 ntu in 95% of samples per month.
- Possible sources: soil runoff.
- Met MCLG 100%

Total Trihalomethanes

- MCLG NA
- MCL 80
- Range = 20.12 - 63.07
- LRAA 44
- Source: by-product of drinking water chlorination.

Unregulated Contaminants 2014

	Range	Highest Reading	Minimum Reporting Limit
Strontium	42 - 52 µg/l	52 µg/l	0.3 µg/l
Vanadium	0.48 - 8.6 µg/l	8.6 µg/l	0.2 µg/l
Chlorate	180 - 270 µg/l	270 µg/l	20 µg/l
Chromium-6	0.058 - 0.17 µg/l	0.17 µg/l	0.03 µg/l
1,4-dioxane	0.099 - 0.28 µg/l	0.28 µg/l	0.07 µg/l
Molybdenum	1.1 - 1.3 µg/l	1.3 µg/l	1.0 µg/l
Total Chromium	0.58 µg/l	0.58 µg/l	0.2 µg/l

THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

Our Source Water Assessment Plan is available for your review at

<http://www.scdhec.gov/HomeAndEnvironment/Water/SourceWaterProtection>

If you do not have internet access, please contact Sidney Varn with the City of West Columbia at 803-957-4596 to arrange to review the plan.

We are on the Web! www.WestColumbiaSC.gov

Special points of interest:

Approximately 73,000 tests were performed at each water treatment facility to ensure the drinking water quality for the City of West Columbia's customers in 2014.

WHAT DO ALL THOSE SYMBOLS MEAN?

- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- **Not Detected (ND):** Not detectable at testing limit.
- **Inorganic Contaminants (IOC's):** Chemicals that do not arise from living growth, such as metals and minerals.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU):** Nephelometric turbidity units are a measure of clarity of the water.
- **Maximum Contaminant Levels Goals (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known expected health risk.
- **Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter:** One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a residual disinfectant that is allowed in drinking water.
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter:** One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM):** A group of four organic compounds that may form when natural organic matter reacts with chlorine.
- **Pico curies per liter (pCi/L):** Pico curies per liter is a measure of radioactivity in the water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.
- **Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA):** An average of the four quarters from 2014.
- **NA (Not Applicable):** Does not apply.

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants for City of West Columbia's Lake Murray Water Plant

Our water system has been sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that these data are available. If you are interested in examining the results please contact Sid Varn, Jr. at 803-957-4596 or PO Box 4044, West Columbia, SC 29171-4044.

This notice is being sent to you by the City of West Columbia's Lake Murray Water Plant. State Water System ID # 3210004



2014 Consumer Confidence Report

City of West Columbia
Bridging Past, Present and Future

200 North 12th Street • West Columbia, SC 29169
Phone: 803-791-1880 • Fax: 803-739-6231

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Monthly Utility Bills

10th of every other month	Bills to residents in district 80 and Lexington district 87 mailed
20th of every other month	Bills to residential district 81 mailed
30th of every other month	Bills to residential district 82 and business district 86 mailed
10th of every other month	Bills to residential district 83 mailed
20th of every other month	Bills to residential district 84 mailed
30th of every other month	Bills to residential district 85 and business district 86 mailed

For more information, contact 791-1880.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

City Council: 1st Tuesday of each month — 6 p.m. — 200 North 12th St.
For more information log onto www.westcolumbiasc.gov

City Council Work Session: 3rd Monday of every month — 6 p.m.

Mayor's Roundtable Meeting: 3rd Monday of every month — 5:30 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting: 4th Monday of every month — 6 p.m.

Zoning Board Meeting: 3rd Tuesday of every month as needed

2014 West Columbia Water Report

The City of West Columbia is diligently committed to provide the highest quality of drinking water to the residents in our service area. The Environmental Protection Agency and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control have established standards for drinking water. These standards were designed to protect the consumer from bacterial and water borne illnesses. This report reflects on the City of West Columbia's commitment and represents a summary of the drinking water quality during the year 2014. This is the fourteenth annual Water Quality Report. Should you have any questions concerning this report please call 957-4596. West Columbia's water meets all standards set by DHEC and EPA.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How Can I Get Involved?

If you are interested in learning more about the City of West Columbia Water Department and Water Quality, opportunities are available. Questions about water quality can be answered by calling the Water Department at 957-4596. The City of West Columbia City Council, the elected officials who control West Columbia's water system, has regular meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. These meetings are conducted in the courtroom at City Hall and begin at 6 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

Is My Drinking Water Safe?

Water produced by the City of West Columbia not only meets, but exceeds all standards set forth by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Do I Need to Take Special Precautions?

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can

be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-Compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of infection. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA\ CDC (Center for Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).